

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

1.-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an ultrafine copper alloy wire, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

melting a high-purity copper having a total unavoidable impurity content of not more than 1 ppm by mass in a carbon crucible installed in a vacuum;

replacing an atmosphere surrounding the melted copper by an argon gas atmosphere and adding 1.0 to 5.0% by mass of silver having a purity of not less than 99.99% by mass to said copper;

casting said copper with silver added thereto in a carbon mold into a wire rod; and

drawing said wire rod to a diameter of not more than 0.08 mm.

13. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an ultrafine copper alloy wire, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

melting a high-purity copper having a total unavoidable impurity content of not more than 1 ppm by mass in a carbon crucible installed in a vacuum;

replacing an atmosphere surrounding the melted copper by an argon gas atmosphere and adding, to said copper, 1.0 to 5.0% by mass of silver having a purity of not less than 99.99% by mass and 0.01 to 0.5% by mass of magnesium having a purity of not less than 99.9% by mass;

casting said copper with silver and magnesium added thereto in a carbon mold into a wire rod; and

drawing said wire rod to a diameter of not more than 0.08 mm.

14. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an ultrafine copper alloy wire, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

melting a high-purity copper having a total unavoidable impurity content of not more than 1 ppm by mass in a carbon crucible installed in a vacuum;

replacing an atmosphere surrounding the melted copper by an argon gas atmosphere and adding, to said copper, 1.0 to 5.0% by mass of silver having a purity of not less than 99.99% by mass and 0.01 to 0.3% by mass of indium having a purity of not less than 99.99% by mass;

casting said copper with silver and indium added thereto in a carbon mold into a wire rod; and

drawing said wire rod to a diameter of not more than 0.08 mm.